

LATEST NEWS OF THE WORLD BY TELEGRAPH AND CABLE. { CONTINUED ON PAGE 11.

BRAVE CRONJE AND HIS MEN ARE PRISONERS

After Contending Against Heavy Odds For Many Days They Surrender.

GEN. ROBERTS' MESSAGE TO ENGLAND

On the Anniversary of the Fatal Battle of Majuba Hill, the Fierce Boer Fighter, to Save the Women and Children in His Camp, and Further Bloodshed, Capitulates Unconditionally to the British Commander—Distinguished Foreign Officers With Cronje—British Casualties.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

London, Feb. 27.—The War Office has received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts, dated Paardeberg, February 27, 7:45 a. m.: "General Cronje and all of his force capitulated, unconditionally, at daylight and he is now a prisoner in my camp. The strength of his force will be communicated later. I hope that Her Majesty's Government will consider this event satisfactory, occurring as it does on the anniversary of Majuba."

LONDON REJOICES.

London, Feb. 28.—4:30 a. m.—From John O'Grady's to Land's End there has been cheering to-day for the Queen and a universal singing of the national anthem. This, with mutual congratulations, is the British way of celebrating the most cheerful day of the year. Already he is taking stock of the situation and measuring the future. There is no disposition to over-estimate the success. The government entertains no illusion. As announced in the House of Commons, 10,000 additional troops will immediately go out, and the effective will be kept near 200,000.

Lord Roberts has done more than to capture 4,000 Boers and a few guns. He is within striking distance of one of the Boer capitals, and is master of a large district of the Free State. He has given a shock to Boer confidence, and immeasurably restored the spirit of his own troops. In capturing Cronje he has taken a leader whose presence alone was worth thousands to the Boer cause.

The best opinion here is that the Transvaalers are certain to continue the fight with undiminished valor, but it is not so certain about the Free Staters.

CRONJE'S BIG GUNS.

Lord Roberts has not allowed the corps of descriptive writers with him to supplement his plain narrative as yet, and there are some points in doubt. It is not clear whether the 4,000 prisoners include those taken in small parties before the capitulation. What has become of the rest of the Boers who held the Magersfontein lines, and where are the big guns? The smallness of Cronje's force causes some wonderment.

The morning papers, without exception, comment on the achievement of the Boer leader and men in holding off for ten days a force from six to eight times as large as their own.

British opinion is far more generous in victory than in defeat.

BULLER'S HARD TIME.

Sir Redvers Buller is having a hard time in Natal. It is evident now after a fortnight's fighting that he was misled when he wired that there was only a weak rear guard between him and Ladysmith. Apparently some of the hardest fighting of the war took place at the end of last week, as an armistice was agreed upon to allow attendance upon the wounded and burial of the dead. Both sides must have lost heavily. At any moment, however, new men may come of General Buller's success. Friday will begin the fourth month of the siege of the garrison, which is seemingly in a position where it is unable to do anything to help General Buller.

DISHONOR WIPED OUT.

London, Feb. 27.—"Majuba avenged." "Cronje surrenders." "Great British Victory." These are the expressions being shouted all over London to-day, yet there are few outward signs of the natural joy that Lord Roberts' dispatch has really caused. The capitulation of General Cronje had been looked upon as almost a certainty for a week past, and now that it has come, enthusiasm finds itself discounted by anticipation. The magnitude of the success of "Little Bobs" is almost overlooked in the fact that it is synchronized with the anniversary of Majuba Hill and wiped out a dishonor of nineteen years' standing.

STOCK EXCHANGE EXCITED.

There was a much more outward display of rejoicing in the provinces than in London. The Glasgow and Liverpool Stock Exchanges were greatly excited. The members sang "God Save the Queen" repeatedly and cheered for "Little Bobs." Flags were liberally displayed on the municipal and public buildings in all the large towns.

THE QUEEN CONGRATULATED.

Windsor was very jubilant at the news, which the Queen disseminated immediately after it reached her. She immediately telegraphed her congratulations to Lord Roberts and the troops. The inhabitants seized the occasion of Her Majesty driving through the town on her way to take a train for a visit to the wounded South African soldiers at the Netley Hospital to make a demonstration.

The Queen, who was looking remarkably well, showed evident signs of deep satisfaction, smiling continually and

member of the Volksraad; Field Cornet Prus, a Scandinavian; Major Albrecht, the famous German artilleryman; Major Von Dewitz, the distinguished German officer and responsible for most of the splendid engineering works of the Boers since the commencement of the war.

BRITISH CASUALTIES.

London, Feb. 27.—7:15 p. m.—The War Office has received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts:

Paardeberg, Feb. 27.—In a very successful attack made by the Royal Canadian contingent on one of the enemy's trenches this morning Major Bellemier was wounded, eight men were killed and twenty-nine men were wounded.

General MacDonald is expected to return to duty in a few days.

London, Feb. 27.—6:35 p. m.—The War Office has issued a list of 721 non-commissioned officers and men wounded in the fighting at Paardeberg Sunday, February 26th, including sixty-three Canadians and 273 Highlanders.

CRONJE'S VALOR PRAISED.

Paris, Feb. 27.—6:30 p. m.—The newspapers of this city pay the highest tribute to General Cronje's valor and express the opinion that his surrender is far from ending the war. They add that it will only make the resistance of the Boer nation all the more desperate.

Several newspapers, however, urge that Great Britain accept mediation, now that she has secured an important victory, and stop further bloodshed.

The Temps, in an article headed "Honor to Both Combatants," appeals to Great Britain to end the war, saying:

"If England once unfortunately engaged in this struggle, could not emerge by accepting the humiliation of defeat, it appears to us that she will do well and reconquer the sympathies of all nations, if, after having given proof of her superior strength, she knew how to stop herself, and in doing so stop the scenes of destruction and carnage now unfolding themselves in the Orange Free State."

bowing in response to the congratulatory cheers.

SPECULATION RIFE.

Speculation is rife as to how soon Lord Roberts will be able to press on to Bloemfontein, but before he enters the capital of the Free State he will undoubtedly have to overcome a powerful force and take strong entrenchments.

LORD ROBERTS' REPORT.

London, Feb. 27 (5:02 p. m.)—The War Office has received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts:

Paardeberg, 11 o'clock Tuesday morning.—From information furnished daily to me by the intelligence department, it became apparent that General Cronje's force was becoming more depressed, and that the discontent of the troops and the discord among the leaders was rapidly increasing. This feeling was doubtless accentuated by the disappointment caused when the Boer reinforcement, which tried to relieve General Cronje, was defeated by our troops February 23. I resolved, therefore, to bring pressure to bear on the enemy. Each night the trenches were pushed forward toward the enemy's laager, so as to gradually contract his position, and at the same time I bombarded it heavily with artillery, which was yesterday materially aided by the arrival of four six-inch Howitzers, which I had ordered up from De Aar. In carrying out these measures a captive balloon gave great assistance by keeping us informed of the dispositions and movements of the enemy. At 3 a. m. to-day a most dashing advance was made by the Canadian regiment and some engineers, supported by the First Gordon Highlanders and Second Sharpshooters, resulting in our gaining a point some six hundred yards nearer the enemy, and within about eighty yards of his trenches, where our men entrenched themselves and maintained their positions till morning—a gallant deed worthy of our colonial comrades, and which I am glad to say, was attended by comparatively slight loss.

"This apparently clinched matters, for, at daylight to-day, a letter signed by General Cronje, in which he stated that he had surrendered unconditionally, was brought to our outposts under a flag of truce."

BRAVE GENERAL CRONJE.

"In my reply I told General Cronje he must present himself at my camp, and that his forces must come out of their laager after laying down their arms. By 7 a. m. I received General Cronje and dispatched a telegram to you announcing the fact. In the course of conversation he asked for kind treatment at our hands, and also that his wife, grandson, private secretary, adjutant and servants might accompany him wherever he might be sent. I reassured him and told him that his request would be complied with. I informed him that a general officer would be sent with him to Cape Town to ensure his being treated with proper respect enroute. He will start this afternoon under charge of Major-General Pretorius, who will hand him over to the general commanding at Cape Town."

"The prisoners, who number about 3,000, will be formed into commandoes under our own officers. They will also leave here to-day, reaching the Modder river to-morrow, when they will be mailed to Cape Town in detachments."

The above dispatch was read in both the House of Lords and the House of Commons to-day. The reference to the Canadians evoked immense and prolonged cheering.

Mr. A. J. Balfour, the government leader in the House of Commons, said he had no information relative to the Boer guns.

OFFICERS AND GUNS.

London, Feb. 27.—6:25 p. m.—Lord Roberts has informed the War Office that the number of Boer prisoners approximates four thousand, of which about 1,150 are citizens of the Orange Free State. The remainder are citizens of the Transvaal.

Twenty-nine Transvaal officers were captured and eighteen Free State officers were made prisoners.

The guns captured from the Transvaal forces were three 7.5 centimetre Krupp, nine one-pounders and one Maxim gun.

From the Free Staters the British captured one 7.5 centimetre Krupp and one Maxim gun.

FOREIGN OFFICERS.

London, Feb. 27.—7:07 p. m.—The officers captured by General Roberts, besides General Piet Cronje, include the following well known commanders: Chief Commandant M. J. Wolverans, a

WHAT CONGRESS DID YESTERDAY

The Last Day's Debate of Porto Rican Tariff Bill.

PAYNE AGAINST PAYNE

Amusement Created by Reading a Letter

From Mr. Payne, the Republican House Leader—Strong Constitutional Arguments Against the Bill—The Quay Case in the Senate—Contract Labor—Other Matters.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

Washington, Feb. 27.—The last day of the general debate on the Porto Rican tariff bill opened in the House to-day with a twenty-minute speech by Mr. Carmack (Tennessee) in opposition to the bill. The alternative presented by the bill, he said, was the abandonment of our priceless principles or of our new possessions. The country had been dazzled with the gorgeous picture of empire, yet at the very threshold of the new departure, he said, gentlemen on the other side, had been appalled lest the trade which they had looked at with covetous eyes would bring ruin and destruction to American labor. Therefore the new possessions were to become colonies and be turned over to carpet bagger adventurers. He read from the Republican platform of 1890 to show that it set up the very con-

these States were already in arms prepared to shoot the life out of what was left of the Union. The constitution, he said, was the buckler of those who attempted to embarrass the government during the war.

MR. CANNON ANSWERED.

The remaining three hours of the general debate was divided equally between the two sides. Mr. Bailey, Dem., Texas, and Mr. Dolliver, Rep., Iowa, closed for their respective sides. Mr. Bailey spoke first. As he arose his political associates gave him a round of applause. Preliminary to beginning his argument, Mr. Bailey said an accusation Mr. Cannon has made against the Democratic side for voting the \$20,000,000 to Spain was the only portion of that speech that called for serious reply. Mr. Bailey said that vote committed the Democrats to nothing as to the further policy toward the Philippines. They voted the money to discharge an obligation of the Government, incurred without their consent. Turning to the bill, Mr. Bailey declared there was involved in it a question of law and a question of morals.

THE LEGAL QUESTION INVOLVED.

Taking up the legal question involved Mr. Bailey made an exhaustive argument against the constitutionality of the bill. He was listened to attentively and frequently elicited applause. As he proceeded he aroused the lawyers of the other side, and was for a time almost continuously engaged in crossing words with one or the other of his adversaries.

During the excitement of the Spanish war Mr. Bailey said he stood unmoved. He warned his countrymen then as he warned them to-day that the constitution could not be applied to the government of the colonies. "When emotional statesmen," said he, "in conclusion, 'were asking who would haul down the flag, I dare say that I would take it down from any place where the constitution could not follow it. (Democratic applause.) Do you desire to present the anomaly of a government restrained by the constitution in one quarter of the globe and possessed of despotic power in the rest of the world? How long is the constitution to shield us and our children if its protection is withheld from the humblest inhabitant? Let me borrow the words of Lincoln. 'This republic cannot endure one-half free and one-half slave.' We must be all citizens, or in time we will be all subjects. I did not want to assimilate these alien and inferior races, and I pray God to deliver us from the task. But if you will take them they must share our destiny with us."

The Republican managers are now confident that with the modifications agreed upon at the conference last night the bill will command a narrow majority on the final vote to-morrow.

IN THE SENATE.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Before a large attendance of Senators and a notable assemblage of gallery spectators, Mr. Dewey, of New York, delivered a brilliant speech in the Senate to-day on the Philippine question. His picture of commerce and civilization proceeding hand in hand brought out an applause that swept over the chamber and through the galleries, and called forth a protest from Mr. Bacon, of Georgia, against such demonstrations.

THE QUAY CASE.

Mr. Turley resumed his speech on the Quay case, and Mr. Penrose interrupted to inquire if it were not the intention of the framers of the constitution that the Senate at all times should be full, so that, in view of such important matters as the Force bill, an impeaching trial or some similar case coming before the Senate, any of which might hinge upon one vote, the States might have equal representation.

Mr. Turley replied that it was, but it would not necessarily follow that the Senate at all times could be kept full. Mr. Turley discussed precedents, and said these for seventy-five years were unbrokenly against the authority the Governor of Pennsylvania vested in the pending case.

Mr. Penrose announced that he would call up the case on every legislative day.

Ames Brownley & Hornthal

Ames Brownley & Hornthal, of New York, have offered an amendment offered yesterday. Later he withdrew it on an appeal to bring in a well-matured bill establishing a postal savings bank through the United States.

Mr. Morgan offered an amendment providing for the payment by the United States of all sums now on deposit in the Hawaiian postal savings bank. It was adopted.

CONTRACT LABOR.

The contract labor question was precipitated again by Mr. Pettigrew, who offered an amendment providing that all contract for labor entered into since August 12, 1898, should be declared null and void.

He asserted that since the annexation of Hawaii 20,000 contract laborers had been imported into Hawaii, their contracts extending over periods from three to ten years.

The coffee lands practically had been changed to sugar plantations controlled by vast sugar interests, who, during the past year, had been paid by this government in remitted duties \$12,000,000. These great interests would consequently be benefited by an amendment to the bill as would meet every contingency.

The amendment was adopted without division. It was agreed that a final vote on the bill and amendments would be taken before adjournment to-morrow. At 5:25 p. m. the Senate adjourned.

Rich Merchant Dead.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.) Savannah, Ga., Feb. 27.—Simon Guckenhimer, a leading wholesale grocery merchant, died to-day, aged 69. He left an estate estimated to be worth upwards of \$1,000,000. At the age of 20 he arrived in this country from Germany with \$20 in his pocket. This he invested in notions, began his career as a peddler. From this humble beginning he amassed a splendid fortune in Georgia and died at the head of one of the largest wholesale houses in this section.

RICHMOND NEWS AND GOSSIP

House Committee Endorses Seaboard Air Line Charter Bill.

CONDITIONS IMPOSED

The Promoters Must Deposit a Large Bond and Begin Work of Construction in One Year—The Telephone Bill Means the Political Death of a gubernatorial Candidate—House Passed Constitutional Convention Bill.

(Special to The Virginian-Pilot.)

Richmond, Va., Feb. 27.—The House Committee on Finance has amended the bills granting a charter to the Washington and Richmond Air Line to such an extent that President John Skelton Williams, of the Seaboard Air Line, declared emphatically this morning that his company would not accept it in its present shape.

The amendments provide that the new road shall pay the State \$250 per share for its holdings in the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac road and that it shall deposit a bond of \$250,000 to guarantee that the new road will be built; also that the line shall be begun within one year and finished within three.

These amendments, it is said, were offered and accepted by the committee on account of the growing fear that there is no intention of building a line, but simply a desire to get the whip-hand of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac and force it to make easy and desirable terms. The opinion is expressed that if a small bond is required the company will cheerfully forego it after forcing the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac to meet its demands. The bill comes up in the House to-morrow.

AN UNPOPULAR BILL.

The telephone bill was again warmly debated at the afternoon session of the Senate, but went over until to-morrow, no vote being reached. The measure is a very unpopular one in Richmond, and those gentlemen who have consented to father it, while leading citizens, have lost prestige in this community to a remarkable degree. It is believed that it means the political death of one of them, who is a leader in the councils of the Democratic party in Virginia.

BILLS PASSED.

The Senate to-day passed, with four dissenting votes, the bill, heretofore explained, to enlarge the powers of the Commissioner of Agriculture.

The bill to incorporate the Agricultural Fair Association of Northern Virginia was passed after the adoption of an amendment proposed by Senator Donohoe, striking out the last section, which permits the making of back on horse race.

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A CHOKE-OFF.

The House adopted a resolution that after March 30 no bills shall be introduced, unless by unanimous consent.

BILLS OFFERED.

A large number of bills were offered, among them the following:

By Mr. Price—To amend an act to provide for the garnishment and levy on wages and salaries of all State officials, clerks and employees.

By Mr. Ewell—To prevent the extermination of wild fowl in the waters of North Bay in Princess Anne county.

By Mr. Edwards—To prohibit acceptance and use of transportation from contractors with intent to defraud.

By Mr. Lyons (by request)—To incorporate the Elizabeth City Railroad Company.

PILLS PASSED.

Among the bills passed was one to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to amend and re-enact section 3523 of the Code of Virginia, and to repeal section 3525 of the Code of Virginia, in relation to fees of attorneys for the Commonwealth, approved March 3, 1896.

AFTERNOON LEGISLATION.

At the meeting of the House this afternoon the following bills were passed: For the relief of the Norfolk, Portsmouth and Newport News Railway Company.

To allow lessees of fifty or more contiguous acres of planting ground to dredge or scrape the same under certain conditions, and to impose a penalty for dredging or scraping planting grounds.

To regulate the hunting and killing

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BOERS TERRIBLE FIRE.

Colenso, Sunday, Feb. 25.—In the attempt of the Inniskillings Friday evening to rush the Boer position on Pieter's Hill, the Boer fire was so terrible when the infantry emerged from the cover of the trees that almost every man in the leading half of the company fell wounded.

The advance line of the British reached a donga in front of the first Boer trench, which was not apparent until they were actually in it.

The Boers retired to the crest and then returned, on either flank, of the Inniskillings, enfilading the captured donga with a terrible cross-fire.

BRITISH TWICE REPULSED.

Finding it impossible to advance or to hold the position the British fell back and entrenched themselves half way up the hill. The Boers maintained a heavy fire.

In the course of the night the Dublin Fusiliers and the Connaughts arriving to support the Inniskillings, another determined attempt was made to take the Boer positions. This also failed. A heavy fire continued throughout the night.

HEAVY LOSSES.

The Inniskillings lost 14 out of 17 officers killed and wounded, and about 250 non-commissioned officers and men killed and wounded.

General Littleton's brigade relieved General Hart's brigade in the morning and the artillery duel was continued yesterday (Saturday), though no great damage was done.

AN ARMISTICE.

To-day an armistice was agreed upon to enable both sides to collect their dead and wounded.

The Boers admit having had very heavy losses, but they scout the idea that the British will compel them to raise the siege of Ladysmith.

BULLER'S DIFFICULTIES.

London, Feb. 28.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Pietermaritzburg,

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